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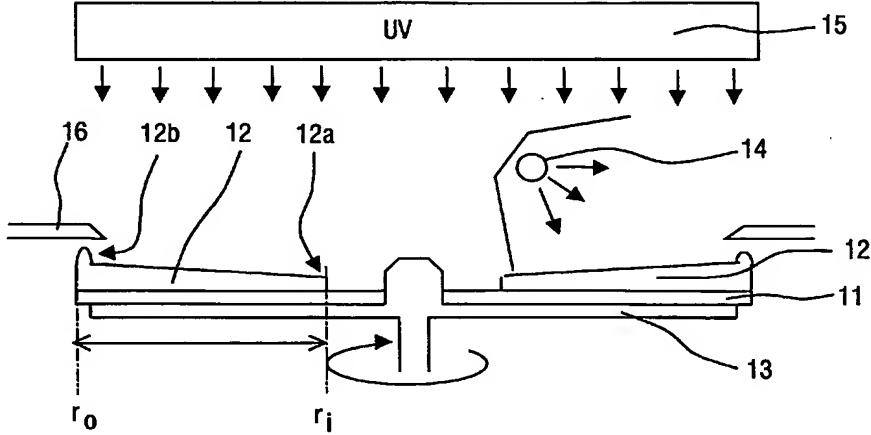
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(54) Title: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING AN OPTICAL DATA STORAGE MEDIUM, OPTICAL DATA STORAGE MEDIUM AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING SAID METHOD



(57) Abstract: A method of manufacturing an optical data storage medium, comprising at least one substrate (11) and a plurality of layers deposited on the substrate (11) is described. The medium includes at least one of a transparent spacer layer and transparent cover layer (12). The layer (12) is provided by applying a liquid onto the rotating substrate (11) and rotating the substrate (11) further in order to spread out the liquid into a layer substantially uniformly between an inner radius r_i and an outer radius r_o , and solidifying the liquid layer (12) by means of exposure to UV radiation. After applying the liquid onto the rotating substrate the liquid layer (12) is heated by heating means (14) in such a way that the temperature rise of the liquid layer (12) at r_i has a value dT_{ri} , while the temperature rise of the liquid layer (12) between r_i and r_o gradually increases, and the temperature rise of the liquid layer (12) at r_o has a value $dT_{ro} > dT_{ri}$. In this way the spacer layer or cover layer has a variation in thickness smaller than +/- 1 μm , measured over the information storage area. Further a medium manufactured using said method and an apparatus for performing the method are described.

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